

## **CALIFORNIA:** **KEEPING AMERICA SAFE AND SECURE**

*“California's naval facilities, our air bases, our supply centers, our training commands have helped our nation produce the best trained and equipped military in the world...These bases are important to national defense, and they are important to our steady economic recovery. As a state, we will fight to keep our bases open.”*

- Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

### **CA BASES – CORNERSTONES OF AMERICA’S SECURITY**

Military from California installations have been a valuable asset to the Defense Department’s Global War on Terrorism. California has provided Marines trained and ready for combat from Camp Pendleton and Twenty-Nine Palms; Navy ships and aircraft carriers from San Diego; fighter planes, cargo and personnel transport planes, and UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) from around the state; and intelligence provided by satellites built and maintained by Air Force bases. Also, a substantial number of service members and equipment from California supported the U.S. humanitarian relief efforts from the December 26, 2004, tsunami in Southern Asia.

### **ONLY IN CALIFORNIA**

Over the last five decades, California has created an integration of intellectual capital between its military installations, university system and defense industry that is unique. The institutional knowledge and the highly skilled workforce in this state have been valuable in creating the unbeatable military of today and will be invaluable in creating the strategy defense needs of the future.

## *Office of the Governor*

The state offers unique capabilities in training unparalleled in any other state. California's ranges are surrounded by un-encroached land, airspace and ocean, including deep water training. Its terrain is ideal for recreating desert, mountain and ocean training. Ideal weather conditions allow for continuous training throughout the year.

### **STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE**

Military bases in California are strategically located to counter future threats in the Pacific, such as North Korea's recent announcement of their work on nuclear weapons.

### **RECRUITMENT CAPITOL**

As the most populous state in the country, California provides more service members to the armed forces than any other state. According to the Marine Corps, their number one recruiting city in the country is San Francisco.

### **BRAC CLOSURES**

In the last four rounds of BRAC, 24 California bases were shut down. The remaining bases are strategically essential to the strength of America's military.

Historically, California has had the largest number of base closures.

- 1988: 16 bases closed, 4 in California.
- 1991: 26 bases closed, 8 in California.
- 1993: 28 bases closed, 7 in California.
- 1995: 27 bases closed, 5 in California.

**Governor Schwarzenegger has called upon California's local communities, legislators, Congressional delegation and its military and business leaders to unite in sending the message to Washington that ALL of California's bases are essential components of our military strength and national security.**

## *Office of the Governor*

Governor Schwarzenegger has brought California's Congressional delegation together to build solidarity in preserving all of the strategically important military bases in California. He has formed the California Council on Base Support and Retention, co-chaired by former White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and businesswoman Donna Tuttle. The Council held six public forums across the state in January and is compiling its recommendations on how to keep California's bases open.

Today, Governor Schwarzenegger, Chairman Jerry Lewis and Congresswoman Jane Harman visited Los Angeles Air Force Base (LAAFB) and were briefed on its strategic importance by base leadership. LAAFB houses and supports the headquarters of the Air Force's Space and Missile Systems Center.

The base has developed and procured state of the art satellites and technologies that the military uses in the global war on terrorism. The technologies used there are instrumental in providing intelligence to the military around the world. LAAFB and the neighboring defense companies are overseeing the development of the next generation of ballistic missiles, rockets and satellites.

The base is a major economic engine in Los Angeles County and California. LAAFB is responsible for the direct and indirect employment of 50,000 people in Los Angeles and an additional 62,000 people throughout the state.